

**Duke Energy Progress' Response to
The Office of Regulatory Staff's
Eleventh Utility Rates Request
Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-4-55
Related to DEP Nuclear Unit Decommissioning and/or Relicensing
Docket No. 2018-318-E
Date of Request: December 21, 2018
Date Response Due: January 3, 2019**

☒ **CONFIDENTIAL**

☐ **NOT CONFIDENTIAL**

The attached response to Eleventh Utility Rates Request #11-1, was provided to me by the following individual: Rounette K. Nader, Director, Nuclear Engineering, and was provided to the ORS under my supervision.

Heather Shirley Smith
Deputy General Counsel
Duke Energy Progress, LLC

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DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS

Request:

11-1 Please state DEP's plans for decommissioning or relicensing for each of the Company's nuclear units.

Confidential Response:

DEP currently has operating licenses from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that allow the Company to operate its nuclear units for up to sixty years. As described in the Company's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) filed in September 2018, current projections show that maintaining the option to continue operating the Company's existing nuclear fleet provides value for the Company and its customers. Therefore, to ensure these valuable resources are available for the next generation, the Company is working within the framework established by the NRC to evaluate the potential for subsequent license renewals (SLR) of its nuclear units. SLR would give the Company the option to operate the nuclear units up to an additional twenty years. Securing SLR is a low-risk option that provides flexibility when evaluating future generation options.

Additional information on the inputs used to develop a decision to pursue SLR for the nuclear fleet is provided in response to Data Request 11-2. The Company is in its final stages of evaluation and review. The Company's intentions with respect to filing SLR Applications for its nuclear fleet have not been made public at this time.

As stated in the IRP, DEP is not currently contemplating retiring or decommissioning any of its nuclear units at this time or any time over the planning period.